

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /016 R

66602

DRAFTED BY: S/CCT:RAFEAREY

APPROVED BY: S/CCT:ROBERT A. FEAREY

S/S:MR. ORTIZ

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O 151645Z AUG 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193972

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT KHARTOUM 1878, SENT SECSTATE, INFO ADDIS ABABA,  
ASMARA, AUG 13, 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1878

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, ET

SUBJECT: CISCO TWO: INTERVIEW WITH AMERICAN PRISONERS

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING ASKED CHARGE TO CALL  
AND THEN INTRODUCED CHARGE TO LUCIEN BITTERLIN AS SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF "ASSOCIATION DE SOLIDAITE FRANCO-ARABE" AND  
DIRECTOR OF ASSOCIATION'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE CALLED "FRANCE  
PAYS ARABE." BITTERLIN HAS JUST ARRIVED KHARTOUM  
ACCOMPANIED BY PLF REPEAT PLF REPRESENTATIVE WHO ACCOMPANIED  
HIM DURING RECENT TRAVEL THROUGH ERITREA.

2. BITTERLIN SAID THAT ON AUGUST 5 HE HAD INTERVIEWED  
AMERICAN PRISONERS CAMPBELL AND HARRELL AT A PLF CAMP  
APPROXIMATELY MIDWAY BETWEEN NAKFA AND ALGHENA IN NORTHERN  
ERITREA. BITTERLIN ESTIMATED THAT CAMP WAS 100 KILOMETERS  
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FROM SUDANESE BORDER.

3. BITTERLIN SAID THAT THE TWO AMERICANS WERE IN GOOD HEALTH AND WELL CARED FOR. AERIAL BOMBING BY ETHIOPIAN FORCES HAD OCCURRED AUGUST 3 BUT WITHOUT DAMAGE TO CAMP. HE SAID THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO JUDGE FROM THE APPEARANCE OF THE CAMP WHETHER THE PLF UNIT HAD ANY IMMEDIATE TRAVEL PLANS.

4. BITTERLIN CONDUCTED A BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH CAMPBELL AND HARRELL AND WILL PLAY THE TAPE FOR CHARGE LATER THIS AFTERNOON. HE IS MOST RELUCTANT TO SURRENDER THE TAPE OR ALLOW US TO COPY IT, SINCE HE IS RETURNING TO PARIS ON AUGUST 15 AND MAY BE ABLE TO PLACE INTERVIEW IN FRENCH PRESS.

5. BITTERLIN ALSO HANDED CHARGE UNSEALED LETTER FROM CAMPBELL TO HIS WIFE IN ASMARA WHICH BEING POUCHED ASMARA AUGUST 14. CAMPBELL WRITES THAT HE AND HARRELL ARE EATING WELL, ARE IN GOOD HEALTH AND ARE TREATED VERY WELL. HE CHARACTERIZES THE FORCES HOLDING THEM AS "HELPFUL AND HUMANE." HE CONTINUES TO SAY THAT THE "FIGHTERS ARE VERY GOOD PEOPLE AND VERY CONCERNED FOR OUR NEEDS. THEY HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO INSURE OUR EVERY NEED." CAMPBELL'S LETTER STATES THAT PARTY SPENT FIRST 12 DAYS AFTER CAPTURE TRAVELLING CONTINUALLY BY FOOT BUT THEY HAD BEEN RELATIVELY STATIONARY DURING SUBSEQUENT 11 DAYS (UP TO AUGUST 5).

6. WILL CABLE CONTENTS OF TAPED INTERVIEW LATER TODAY.  
BERLIND  
UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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